

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF PHARMACY**

**TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

**TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2012**

**Thursday, March 29, 2012  
2:35 p.m.**

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2229, S.D.2, H.D.1, RELATING TO  
VACCINATIONS.**

**TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N HERKES, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

My name is Todd Inafuku, member of the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"), Chair of the Board's Laws and Rules Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2229, S.D.2, H.D.1, Relating to Vaccinations. The Board supports this bill which would allow a pharmacist to administer the influenza vaccine to persons between the ages of fourteen and seventeen pursuant to a valid prescription and comply with other reporting requirements.

This bill includes the recommendations previously requested by the Board when this measure was heard by the House Committee on Health.

I would also like to add that the Board's previous testimony, that included our recommendations to the Health Committee, was also emailed to the members of the Task Force that was established pursuant to Act 125, SLH 2010, to make recommendations to the Legislature on the potential benefits and drawbacks of lowering the age restrictions for pharmacists to administer vaccines to children.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2229, S.D.2, H.D.1.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce**

**SB 2229, SD 2, HD 1, Relating to Vaccinations**

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
Director of Health**

**March 29, 2012, 2:35 p.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** Strongly Support.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The proposed legislation seeks to enact recommendations developed by the  
4 Act 125(10) Task Force, which had been convened to research, assess, plan, and evaluate the potential  
5 benefits and drawbacks of reducing the age restrictions that prevent children from receiving vaccines  
6 from pharmacists; the most effective means to reduce such age restrictions; and whether educational or  
7 certification requirements would be necessary or recommended to allow pharmacists to administer  
8 vaccines to children. The Department supports these recommendations as they reflect the consensus  
9 reached concerning these issues by Task Force members representing the fields of pharmacy, pediatrics,  
10 and public health in the State of Hawaii.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**Testimony for SB2229 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM**

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 7:44 PM

**To:** CPCtestimony

**Cc:** caflucas@hawaii.edu

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Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2229

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Christine Lucas

Organization: National Community Pharmacists Association at UHH

E-mail: caflucas@hawaii.edu

Submitted on: 3/23/2012

Comments:

**Testimony for SB2229 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM**

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 8:26 PM

**To:** CPCtestimony

**Cc:** Jenn\_262@hotmail.com

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Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2229

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Jennie Lim

Organization: National Community Pharmacists Association at UHH

E-mail: Jenn\_262@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/23/2012

Comments:

**Testimony for SB2229 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM**

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 10:18 PM

**To:** CPCtestimony

**Cc:** lin-0603@hotmail.com

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Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2229

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Wei Lin

Organization: National Community Pharmacists Association at UHH

E-mail: lin-0603@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/23/2012

Comments:

To Whom This May Concern,

My Name is Nicole Ku'ulei Tabandera, I was born and raised in Hilo, Hawai'i. I am student pharmacist in the class of 2014 at the University Of Hawaii College Of Pharmacy and the 2012-2013 President of the National Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Student Chapter at UHH.

I am in support of this bill SB 2229 in the approval of allowing pharmacists to administer the flu vaccine to children ages 14-17 years old. As a student pharmacist I am certified in administering vaccination at the beginning of my second year and I am continually learning the latest up-to-date data and recommendations on drugs and vaccines. I feel strongly on adding this service to the younger public ages 14-17 year old that we will be able to better protect the individual and community as a whole, from epidemics like the flu.

Prevention is key to the health of a patient and allowing pharmacists to assist in this process should be a part of our services to the community. This service will benefit the patients not only in protecting themselves from the flu but also by decrease the cost by avoiding a doctor's visit cost. Pharmacists are the only health care professionals that do not have a visit fee. The future of pharmacy is to become more involved with patients overall wellbeing therefore emphasizing prevention.

Sincerely,

Nicole Ku'ulei Tabandera

NCPA President 2012-2013

University of Hawaii Hilo

College of Pharmacy

Class of 2014

## Testimony for SB2229 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Saturday, March 24, 2012 10:35 AM

**To:** CPCtestimony

**Cc:** kyorong@hawaii.edu

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Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2229

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Keshia Mahi-Leopoldino

Organization: Individual

E-mail: kyorong@hawaii.edu

Submitted on: 3/24/2012

### Comments:

My name is Keshia Mahi-Leopoldino and I was born and raised here in the islands of Hawai'i. I am a student pharmacist in the Class of 2014 at UH Hilo and have been trained to administer vaccines and immunizations to patients while keeping myself up to date with the latest data and guidelines on drugs and vaccines. I am in support of this bill because by being able to provide immunization services to a younger generation will not only allow pharmacists to be recognized as more than just someone behind a counter with a stock of pills but we will finally be able to break the barrier between that label and our patients. We will be able to provide the same service that a physician can do but have more availability to our patients who can't get into a busy physician's 9-5 office hour clinic. Providing immunizations services to the younger generation of adolescents will allow us as pharmacists to contribute to their health at an earlier point in their lives than before. As pharmacists, our focus is on each individual patient's wellbeing and quality of life and prevention is one of the main factors in maintaining this with each patient

**Testimony for SB2229 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM**

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Sunday, March 25, 2012 10:37 PM

**To:** CPCtestimony

**Cc:** Kristi3@hawaii.edu

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Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2229

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Kristi Tintiangco

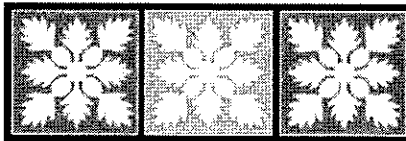
Organization: NCPA

E-mail: Kristi3@hawaii.edu

Submitted on: 3/25/2012

Comments:





## Hawaii Association of Health Plans

March 29, 2012

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair  
The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Vice Chair

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

**Re: SB 2229 SD2 HD1 – Relating to Vaccinations**

Dear Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Richard Jackson and I am chair of the Public Policy Committee of the Hawaii Association of Health Plans (HAHP). HAHP is a non-profit organization consisting of eight (8) member organizations: AlohaCare, HMAA, HMSA, HWMG, Kaiser Permanente, MDX Hawai'i, UHA, and UnitedHealthcare. Our mission is to promote initiatives aimed at improving the overall health of Hawaii. HAHP is also an active participant in the legislative process. Before providing any testimony, all HAHP member organizations must be in unanimous agreement of the statement or position.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2229 SD2 HD1 which would allow pharmacists to administer the influenza vaccine to patients aged fourteen to seventeen, per a physician's prescription.

HAHP understands the importance of preventative care, and we have committed to working with the State Administration to financially support the Stop Flu at School Program (SFAS). SFAS is a vaccination program that supplies the influenza vaccine at participating schools statewide, and its intent is to increase access to inoculation against influenza.

Similarly, we believe that by allowing pharmacists to provide the vaccine under physician's orders, more children will be able to receive the vaccine. These preventative measures will help ensure the health of our keiki and help prevent the more severe health issues that can arise from instances of influenza. We also support the added provision of requiring pharmacists to complete the necessary accredited training program in order to administer the vaccine.

Thank you for allowing us to testify in support of this measure today.

Sincerely,

Richard Jackson  
Chair, Public Policy Committee

# HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

March 29, 2012

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair  
The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Vice Chair

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

**Re: SB 2229, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Vaccinations**

Dear Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2229, SD2, HD1. This Bill will authorize pharmacists to administer influenza vaccine to persons between 14 and 17 years of age, pursuant to a valid prescription.

Keeping our members healthy through personal attention and preventive care is the cornerstone of our new model of health care delivery for our members - the patient centered medical home. Our vision is to have the primary care provider work on an individual health care regime for each of our members, including appropriate and acceptable immunizations. Taking personal responsibility and preventive measures will help minimize the opportunity for each member to endure more severe and costly health conditions.

The importance of preventive measures, including immunizations, was not better highlighted than in the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While many of the other elements of the federal health care reform will not be realized until 2014, the ACA mandated preventive health services with no cost-sharing within the first six months of the ACA's enactment, September 2010. In Hawaii, the State Administration, working with the Hawaii Association of Health Plans, reenergized the statewide school-located flu vaccination program, further exemplifying the commitment to preventive health and an appropriate immunization program.

Thank you the opportunity to testify in support of this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JD' followed by a flourish.

Jennifer Diesman  
Vice President  
Government Relations

March 29, 2012

To: Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair  
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection &  
Commerce

From: Susan Houghton, Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations

Re: Safeway Support for SB 2229, SD2, HD1: Relating to Vaccinations

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 2229, SD2, HD1.

SB 2229, SD2, HD1 allows pharmacists, per a physician's prescription, to administer the influenza vaccine to persons aged fourteen to seventeen provided that the pharmacist has fulfilled certain requirements. This measure is a significant and important step toward making influenza vaccines more readily available to a wider population.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this important legislation. Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (925) 467-2212 or George Glukfeld, our Hawaii district manager at (808) 524-4554.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Houghton  
Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations



3375 Koapaka Street, D-108  
Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: (808) 831-0811  
Fax: (808) 831-0833

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March 29, 2012

Representative Robert N. Herkes, Chair  
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Re: SB 2229, SD2, HD1: Relating to Vaccinations

Dear Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, on behalf of Times Supermarkets, we are writing in support of SB 2229, SD2, HD1.

SB 2229, SD2, HD1, allows pharmacists, per a physician's prescription, to administer the influenza vaccine to persons aged fourteen to seventeen provided that the pharmacist has fulfilled certain requirements. We believe that this measure is an important step toward making influenza vaccines more readily available to a wider population.

As you may know, Times Supermarkets is based on Oahu and operates 26 stores with locations in Maui, Kauai and Oahu. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding this matter at (209) 957-2555, ext 153 or Bob Stout, President of Times Supermarket at (808) 831-0811. We thank you in advance for your consideration and we look forward to continuing the dialogue regarding this and other important public policies.

Respectfully,

Bob Gutierrez  
Director of Government Affairs,  
Times Supermarket and Big Save Supermarket

GOODSILL ANDERSON QUINN & STIFEL

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

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**TO:** Representative Robert N. Herkes  
Chair, Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
*Via Email: [CPCtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:CPCtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov) and Hand Delivery*

**FROM:** Mihoko E. Ito

**DATE:** March 27, 2012

**RE:** **S.B. 2229, SD2, HD1– Relating to Vaccinations**  
**Hearing Date: March 29, 2012 at 2:35 p.m.**  
**Conference Room 325**

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Dear Chair Herkes and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

I am Mihoko Ito, an attorney with Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel, submitting comments on behalf of Walgreen Co. (“Walgreens”). Walgreens operates more than 8,200 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In Hawai‘i, Walgreens now has 11 stores on the islands of Oahu, Maui and Hawai‘i.

Walgreens **supports** S.B. 2229, SD2, HD1, which allows pharmacists to administer the influenza vaccine to persons aged fourteen to seventeen with a physician's prescription, provided that the pharmacist has fulfilled certain requirements. We support the passage of this measure, recognizing that it is the result of the collaborative efforts of the members of the vaccination task force formed pursuant to Act 125, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010.

In Hawaii, the current law allows for vaccines to be given to person 18 years or older pursuant to a collaborative practice agreement. Walgreens ultimately supports the lowering of the age restrictions to age 9 for the flu and other pharmacist-administered vaccines without a physician’s prescription. To date, 27 other states have a lowered their age restrictions to at least 9 years old, and in most of these states this practice is allowed this practice pursuant to a physician protocol, rather than a prescription.

However, we support S.B. 2229, SD2, HD1 as a result of the work of the task force, because we believe that increasing access to vaccines is an important public, and appreciate that the issue was fully considered and analyzed by the interested stakeholders.

March 27, 2012

Page 2

Allowing pharmacists to administer vaccinations is a low-cost and convenient way to meet an important public health need. Studies have shown that in states in which pharmacists are allowed to administer vaccines, the vaccine coverage rates are increased for the target population.

Pharmacists are required to receive specialized training to administer vaccinations. Presently, Walgreens pharmacists who participate in vaccine programs go through a "Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery" certificate training program offered by the American Pharmacists Association and recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or a state approved equivalent program. In addition to immunization training, all participating pharmacists are required to become certified in adult and child CPR and take OSHA blood-borne pathogens training. These programs include training to administer vaccines for children nine years of age and older.

Walgreens is committed to promoting public health by improving the accessibility of life-saving vaccines. We believe that, given proper training and certification for pharmacists, lowering the age restrictions for pharmacist-administered vaccines will improve access to vaccines and serve as a valuable preventative tool. In Hawai'i, it would also allow for a quick and effective response to vaccinate a large number of people in the event of a public health emergency.

We respectfully request that you pass this measure. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.



94-450 Mokuola Street, Suite 106, Waipahu, HI 96767  
808.675.7300 | [www.ohanahealthplan.com](http://www.ohanahealthplan.com)

Thursday, March 29, 2012

To: The Honorable Robert N. Herkes  
Chair, House Committee on Finance

From: 'Ohana Health Plan

Re: Senate Bill 2229, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1-Relating to Vaccinations

Hearing: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 2:35 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 308

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'Ohana Health Plan is managed by a local team of experienced health care professionals who embrace cultural diversity, advocate preventative care and facilitate communications between members and providers. Our philosophy is to place members and their families at the center of the health care continuum.

'Ohana Health Plan is offered by WellCare Health Insurance of Arizona, Inc. WellCare provides managed care services exclusively for government-sponsored health care programs serving approximately 2.6 million Medicaid and Medicare members nationwide. 'Ohana has been able to take WellCare's national experience and that of our local team to develop an 'Ohana care model that addresses local members' health care, long-term care and care coordination needs.

We appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 2229, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1-Relating to Vaccinations. The purpose of this bill is to allow pharmacists, per a physician's prescription, to administer the influenza vaccine to persons aged fourteen to seventeen provided that the pharmacist has fulfilled certain requirements.

This bill will assist in increasing the ability of children ages 14 to 17 to access influenza vaccinations, or flu shots. Passage of this measure will assist in increasing the accessibility and availability for people aged fourteen to seventeen to receive their influenza vaccination.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 2229, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1-Relating to Vaccinations.